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Hence, 
$$f(s) = r_0 + (s-a) [f'(a) + q_0] + \frac{(s-a)}{2!} f''(a) + \dots$$

In like manner,  $f'(a) + q_0 = r_1 + q_1(s-a)$  and  $\frac{f''(a)}{2!} + q_1 = r_2 + q_2(s-a)$ , and so on. Then

$$f(s) = r_0 + r_1(s-a) + r_2(s-a)^2 + r_3(s-a)^3 + ... + r_n(s-a)^n$$
, and  $N = r_n r_{n-1} ... r_3 r_2 r_1 r_0$ , in the scale  $s-a$ .

Let it be required, for example, to convert 567834 in the scale of 12 to the scale of 11.

$$f(s) = 4 + 3s + 8s^2 + 7s^3 + 6s^4 + 5s^5$$
.

The value of the functions, and of the q's and r's are shown below.

$$f(1), f'(1), \frac{f''(1)}{2!}, \frac{f'''(1)}{3!}, \frac{f^{iv}(1)}{4!}, \frac{f^{v}(1)}{5!}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 33 & 89 & 109 & 81 & 31 & 5\\ 3 & 8 & 10 & 8 & 3\\ 0 & 4 & 7 & 3 & 6 & 8 \end{vmatrix}$$

Hence, N=863740 in the scale of 11.

## DEPARTMENTS.

## SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS.

## ALGEBRA.

210. Proposed by B. F. FINKEL, Ph. D., Drury College, Springfield, Mo.

Simplify, 
$$\log[\sqrt[3]{(137)} \ \sqrt[3]{(56)} \div \sqrt[187] \ \sqrt[4]{(75)}].$$

Solution by G. B. M. ZERR, A. M., Ph. D., Philadelphia, Pa., and A. H. HOLMES, Brunswick, Me.

Let P be the value of the expression in the parentheses. Then  $\log P = \frac{1}{3} \log 137 + \frac{1}{7} \log 56 - \frac{1}{10} \log 187 - \frac{1}{4} \log 75$ .

A similar example is given in Dickson's College Algebra, p. 20, ex. 6. Professor Dickson gives an answer in accordance with the above solution. It is our opinion, and in this opinion concur Professor E. R. Hedrick of the Missouri State University, and Professor George Melcher of the Missouri State Normal School of Springfield, that the last sign should be +. There is quite a general agreement among mathematical writers, that the operations of multiplication and division should be performed in the exact order of their occurrence. Thus  $4 \times 6 \div 3 \times 2 = 16$  and not 4. However, Professor Dickson says, were one to ask for the log of  $ab \div cd$  one would surely give as an answer,  $\log a + \log b - \log c - \log d$ , and to this form the numerical form in the problem corresponds. While we recognize the force of Professor Dickson's argument, yet we believe that when there is a possibility of ambiguity, every doubt should be removed by an explicit notation or else by following a well established usage.